

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 COLOMB 02765 081107Z  
ACTION CU-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 /016 W  
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P R 080831Z AUG 77  
FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO  
TO USIA WASHDC PRIORITY  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 7866

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USIAC

USIA FOR INA, ICS

STATE FOR CU/NEA

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJ: WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

1. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE: PERHAPS AN INDICATION OF HIGH ESTEEM IN WHICH COLOMBO LIBRARY REFERENCE SERVICES ARE HELD WERE TWO INFORMATION REQUESTS FROM NEW UNITED NATIONAL PARTY GOVERNMENT. ONE FROM PLANNING MINISTRY WAS FOR ECONOMIC DATA ON ASEAN WITH WHICH GSL REPORTEDLY INTERESTED IN ASSOCIATING ITSELF. OTHER WAS FROM BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE OF LEGAL TALENT APPOINTED BY PRIME MINISTER TO DRAFT CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES PROPOSED BY UNP. REQUESTS WERE FOR TEXT AND COMMENTARY ON AMERICAN CONSTITUTION AND FOR COPY OF FRENCH CONSTITUTION, WHICH FRENCH EMBASSY UNABLE TO PROVIDE IN ENGLISH. END  
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2. TWO EXCEPTIONALLY GIFTED VOLSPKRS AND ONE AMSPEC TURNED IN IMPRESSIVE PERFORMANCES IN SUPPORT OF POST OBJECTIVES III (U.S. POL/SOC PROCESSES) AND IV (ARTS/HUMANITIES). CALIFORNIA  
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STATE UNIVERSITY (LONG BEACH) PRESIDENT STEPHEN HORN SPOKE ON "CURRENT ISSUES IN U.S. HIGHER EDUCATION" AT AMERICAN CENTER TO 35 TOP-LEVEL MINED OFFICIALS, UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS, AND CURRICULUM PLANNERS OF DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION. QUESTION PERIOD LASTED TWO HOURS WITH KEEN INTEREST SHOWN IN CALIFORNIA'S AFFIRMATIVE ACTION PROGRAMS, COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM AND CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT. A FORMER VICE-CHAIRMAN OF CIVIL RIGHTS

COMMISSION, HORN DISCUSSED "HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS" IN AN INFORMAL, HEAD-ON SESSION WITH FIFTEEN MEMBERS OF SRI LANKA'S PRESTIGIOUS INTERNATIONAL LAW ASSOCIATION. HORN EXPLAINED BACKGROUND OF RIGHTS POLICY, IMPACT STATEMENTS, CONGRESSIONAL ROLE, AND FOREIGN POLICY IMPLICATIONS TO GENERALLY APPRECIATIVE AUDIENCE, THOUGH SOME FELT NEW POLICY UNREALISTIC IF APPLIED RIGIDLY TO CIVIL LIBERTIES CONDITIONS IN MANY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WITH OVERRIDING SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEMANDS. HORN'S THIRD LECTURE WAS THOUGHTFUL, BALANCED ANALYSIS OF "FIRST SIX MONTHS OF PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER" TO 95 GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, ACADEMICS, PROFESSIONALS AND PRESS AT AMERICAN CENTER, WHERE HE FORTHRIGHTLY FIELDDED QUESTIONS ON ARMS CONTROL, NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION, FOREIGN AID, AND U.S. DOMESTIC POLITICS. HORN, AN EXTREMELY FLUENT, KNOWLEDGEABLE, CONVINCING SPEAKER, BUTTRESSING ARGUMENTS FROM PERSONAL EXPERIENCE AND WITH SCHOLARLY ANALYSIS.

3. ALSO IN BUSY WEEK AT AMERICAN CENTER WAS TWO-DAY THEATER WORKSHOP CONDUCTED BY THEATRE PERSONALITY JOYCE MOBLEY, PH.D. CANDIDATE IN AMERICAN STUDIES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND FOR 20 STUDENTS OF SINHALA AND TAMIL DRAMA, ACTORS AND DIRECTORS. MOBLEY ALSO LECURED TO 90 ARTISTS, WRITERS, ACTORS, AND ACADEMICS ON "BLACK THEATER IN AMERICA", STIMULATING SPIRITED EXCHANGE ON GOVERNMENT SUPPORT FOR THE ARTS, THEATER AND POLITICS, AND RACE RELATIONS. AUDIENCE DEEPLY IMPRESSED BY MOBLEY'S CHARM, SINCERITY AND PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE.  
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4. IN THIRD RING OF OUR PROGRAM CIRCUS WAS UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND PROVOST FOR ARTS/HUMANITIES ROBERT CORRIGAN, WHO DISCUSSED PROSPECTS OF INITIATING MODEST AMERICAN STUDIES PROGRAM AT UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA WITH UNIVERSITY OFFICIALS IN COLOMBO AND KANDY. CORRIGAN ALSO GAVE VERY WELL RECEIVED TALK ON "LITERATURE IN POLITICS" TO 46 ACADEMICS, GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATORS AT AMERICAN CENTER IN KANDY AUGUST 5. CENTERING HIS COMMENTS ON EZRA POUND, CORRIGAN'S FIRST-RATE SCHOLARSHIP, LUCID DELIVERY CAUSED ONE PROFESSOR TO COMMENT THAT THE CENTER, RATHER THAN THE UNIVERSITY, HAS BECOME THE INTELLECTUAL HUB OF THE KANDY REGION.

5. DESPITE ALMOST TOTAL CEYLONSE PREOCCUPATION WITH RECENT NATIONAL ELECTIONS AND FORMATION OF NEW GOVERNMENT, ALL THREE TOP-FLIGHT SPEAKERS ATTRACTED THE QUALITY AUDIENCES THEY DESERVED.  
VON GLATZ

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## Message Attributes

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